

V86 Vehicle standards requirements for ex-Australian Defence Force vehicles

Information Bulletin

Introduction

This information bulletin outlines areas of non-compliance with ex-Australian Defence Force (ADF) vehicles intended for general road registration. When these vehicles are on-sold to the public, some of these vehicles may not meet with the legislative or roadworthy requirements for normal use on the public road network.

Before a vehicle can be registered for general use/open access on the Northern Territory (NT) road network, it must first meet the requirements of the Australian Governments *Motor Vehicle Standards Act 1989* or *Road Vehicle Standards Act 2018* (RVSA) (depending on the vehicle's date of manufacture) to indicate that the vehicle complies with standards for use in transport on public roads.

Generally, ex-ADF vehicles will have been modified or manufactured to meet specific and essential ADF operational requirements. These essential modifications may contribute to a single non-compliance or multiple non-compliance with the various national vehicle standards (i.e. Australian Design Rule's (ADR)) for road vehicles.

The following information is not exhaustive but is intended to assist owners or potential purchasers to understand some of the key issues with regard to meeting applicable NT roadworthy requirements.

Please note: Under the *Northern Territory Traffic Regulations*, passengers must not be transported in an open load space (i.e. with or without rear seats). It is considered an offence to allow person/s to ride in an open load space whether seated or not.

Further information relating to the Northern Territory Traffic Regulations can be located at the following web link <https://legislation.nt.gov.au/Legislation/TRAFFIC-ACT-1987>

This bulletin only applies to ex-ADF vehicles on-sold to the public and does not apply to military vehicles imported by individuals as parts or as complete assemblies.

Roadworthy requirements

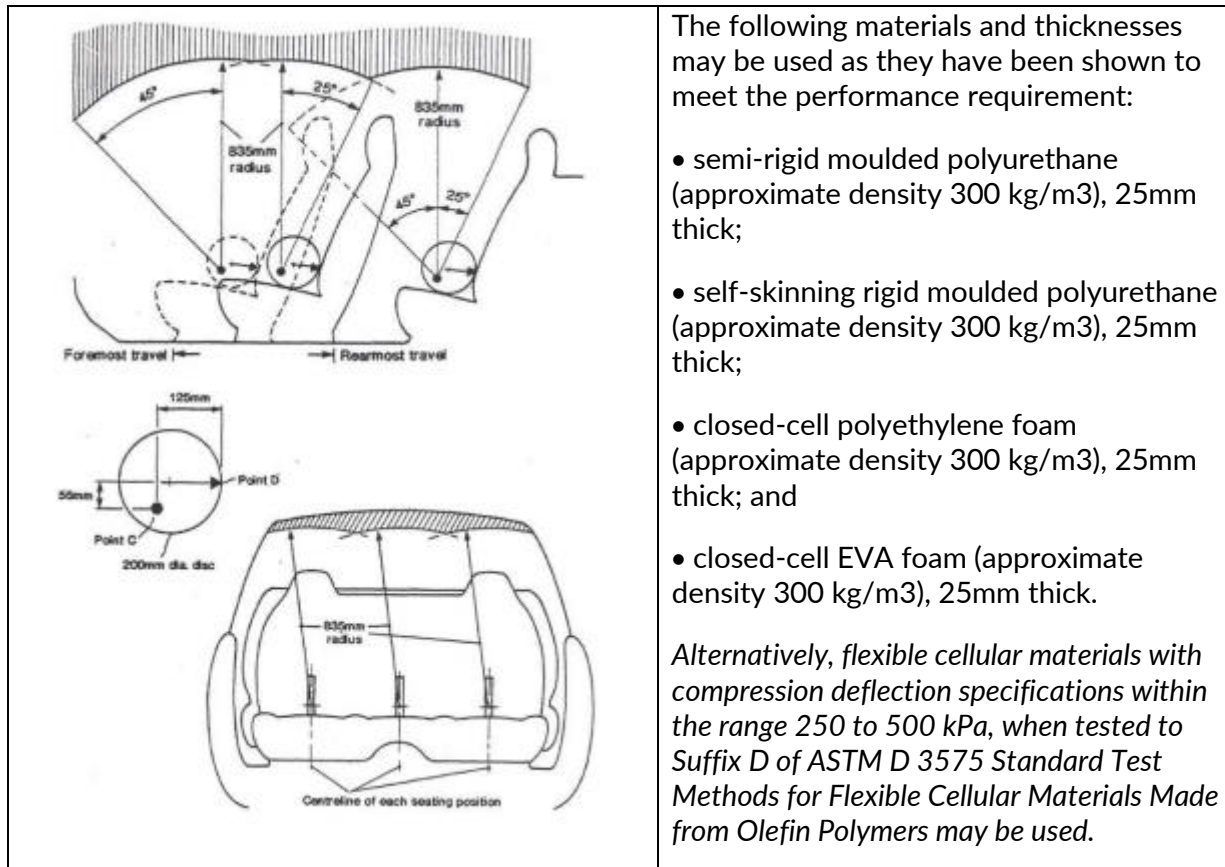
All ex-ADF vehicles must pass an NT roadworthy inspection. The inspection is conducted in accordance with the applicable vehicle inspection manuals.

Additional to the roadworthy requirements, consideration should be given to the following areas that have been identified as possibly requiring further attention.

1. **Vehicle Dimension** – All ex-ADF vehicles and trailers must comply with appropriate ADR 43 requirements. (see links below).
2. **Seat belt anchorages and roll over hoops** – In the absence of any ADF certification for the upper front seat belt anchorages and roll over hoops, additional independent engineering certification may be required.

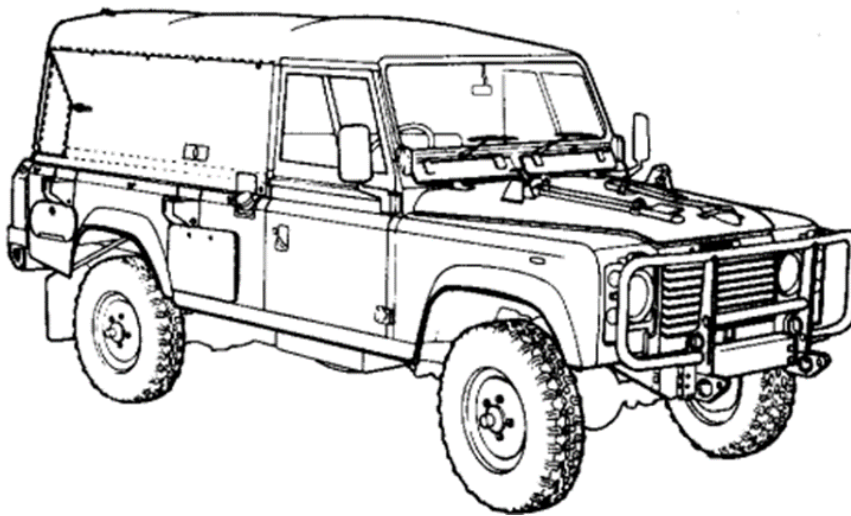
3. **Roll Hoop padding requirements** (Occupant Protection) - All components of the roll-over protection device in the passenger area that lie within the defined head space area must be covered by padding that meets the padding specifications detailed (refer to diagram 1).

Diagram 1



4. **“Black Out” (lighting) mode** – are not suitable for on-road use. It is a requirement of the Australian Vehicle Standards Rules that brake lights must operate when the service brake is applied. This is regardless of any selected lighting mode. Additionally, all lighting must meet with the applicable position and performance requirements.
5. **Tools and accessories** – Tools and accessories must not be secured on the bonnet (spare tyre exempt). Tool racks, ‘Jerry-can’ mounts etc. must not interfere with the operation or view of any essential vehicle systems such as lights, driver vision etc., and must not pose any unnecessary risk to pedestrians or other road users. Any additional accessories must be fitted in accordance with the [Information bulletin V20 Protruding Vehicle Accessories and Equipment](#).
6. **An ignition key/lock or vehicle immobiliser** - should be fitted. Without this item, the vehicle may not be accepted for registration in another State or Territory. Further, the vehicle may not be able to be covered under a contract of insurance (check with your insurer).
7. **Lockable door handles should be fitted** - Without this item, the vehicle may not be accepted for registration in another State or Territory. Further, the vehicle may not be able to be covered under a contract of insurance (please check with your insurer).

Land Rover110 (Perentie)



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4. **Roll hoop padding protection requirements (refer diagram 1)**
5. **Seat belt anchorages and roll over hoops** – In the absence of any ADF certification for the upper front seat belt anchorages and roll over hoops, additional independent engineering certification may be required.

Please note: Under the Northern Territory Traffic Regulations, passengers must not be transported in an open load space (i.e. with or without rear seats). It is considered an offence to allow person/s to ride in an open load space whether seated or not.

Unimog 4x4 – all types



1. **An ignition key/lock or vehicle immobiliser** - should be fitted. Without this item, the vehicle may not be accepted for registration in another State or Territory. Further, the vehicle may not be able to be covered under a contract of insurance (please check with your insurer).
2. **Lockable door handles** - should be fitted. Without this item, the vehicle may not be accepted for registration in another State or Territory. Further, the vehicle may not be able to be covered under a contract of insurance (please check with your insurer).
3. **Lifting and tie down attachments** - must be removed. These cast steel attachments are only essential to specific "*air lifting*" operational requirements of the ADF. These cast attachments pose an increased risk to pedestrians and other road users and must be removed.
4. **Exhaust position** – must be fitted in accordance with the minimum in-service standards below and including applicable ADR 42 requirements (see links below).

The outlet of the exhaust system must extend:

- behind the back seat; and
- at least 40 millimetres beyond the outermost joint of the floorpan that is not continuously welded or permanently sealed; and
- to the edge of the vehicle, if:
 - the body of the vehicle is permanently enclosed; and
 - the vehicle is not fitted with a vertical exhaust system; and
- no further than the edge of the vehicle at its widest point.

The outlet must discharge the main exhaust flow to the air:

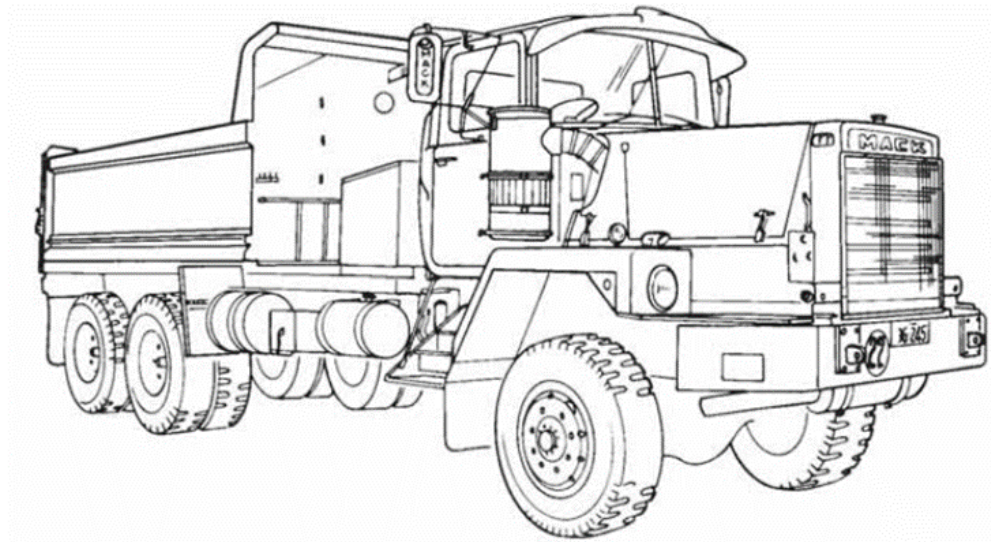
- if the vehicle is fitted, or required under a law of this jurisdiction to be fitted, with an exhaust system with a vertical outlet pipe:
 - at an angle above the horizontal; and
 - at least 150 millimetres above the cab of the vehicle; and
 - rearwards or to the right of the vehicle; and
- in any other case:
 - horizontally or at an angle of not over 45° downwards; and
 - under 750 millimetres above ground level; and
 - rearwards or to the right of the vehicle.

If a vertical exhaust system is fitted it the vertical outlet pipe must:

- direct the exhaust flow straight up; and
- direct the flow rearwards at an angle within 0° to 45° of the longitudinal centre line of the vehicle.

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Mack 6x6 – all types



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 - the body of the vehicle is permanently enclosed; and
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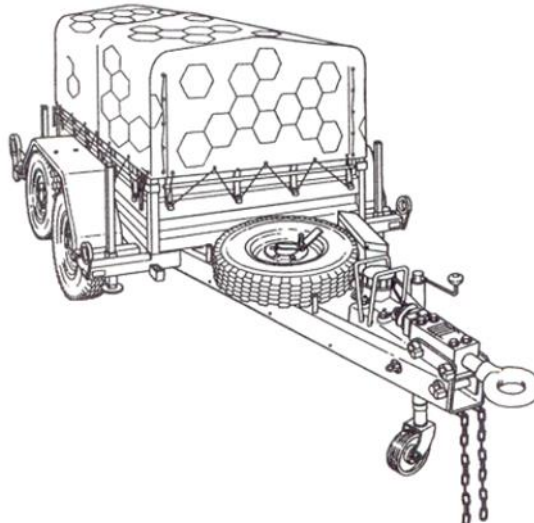
The outlet must discharge the main exhaust flow to the air:

- if the vehicle is fitted, or required under a law of this jurisdiction to be fitted, with an exhaust system with a vertical outlet pipe:
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 - rearwards or to the right of the vehicle; and
- in any other case:
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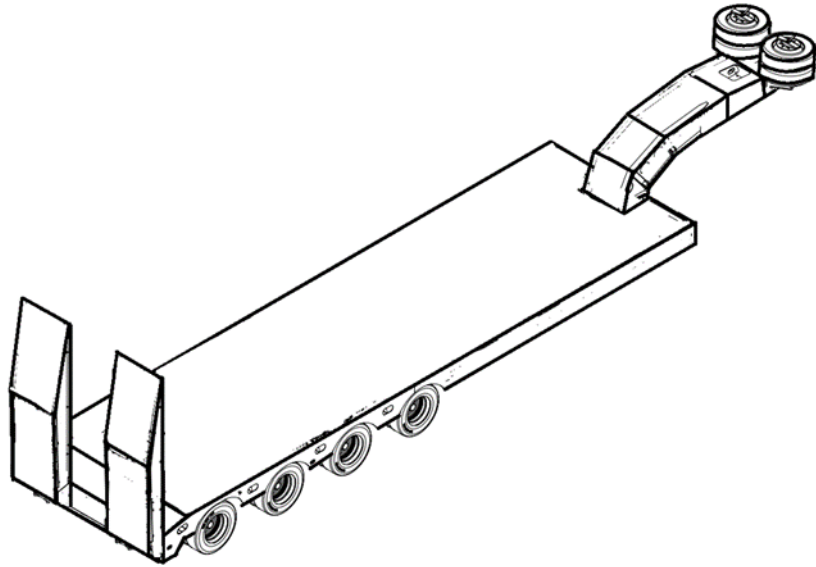
- direct the exhaust flow straight up; and
- direct the flow rearwards at an angle within 0° to 45° of the longitudinal centre line of the vehicle.

Light trailers



1. **Vehicle marking (compliance)** - light trailers must comply with applicable ADR 61 requirements and display an approved identification plate in accordance with the *Motor Vehicle Standards Act 1989*, *RVSA 2018* and or alternatively *Vehicle Standards Bulletin 1*, which establishes a set of design and construction standards for road trailers that, operates as an alternative to the ADRs. (see links below).
2. **Dimensions** – all light trailers must comply with the dimension prescribed in ADR 43 (see links below).
3. **Tow Couplings** - Trailers not exceeding 3500kg Aggregate Trailer Mass (ATM) must have a quick release coupling, which must be designed to be engaged and disengaged without the use of tools. It must be of a positive locking type with provision for a second independent device. The locking must be readily verifiable by visual inspection.
4. **Safety Chains** - Trailers with rigid drawbars (pig trailers) must be fitted with appropriately rated and identifiable safety chains.

Heavy trailers



1. **Vehicle marking (compliance)** - heavy trailers must comply with applicable ADR 61 requirements and display an approved identification plate in accordance with the *Motor Vehicle Standards Act 1989* or the *Road Vehicle Standards Act 2018*. (see links below).
2. **Dimensions** – all heavy trailers must comply with the dimension prescribed in ADR 43 (see links below).

Please note: Before purchasing any *non-standard or over dimensional trailer* you should consider whether the manufacturer was granted approval to manufacture and supply a *non-standard trailer* to the market and that the *non-standard or over dimensional trailer* will be granted access by the relevant road managers.

Consideration should be given to, or before, purchasing any non-standard or over dimensional trailer, including those identified by the compliance plate as Haulmark 4STL-55 Approval No 6212JA. These trailers require significant modification due to exceeding maximum prescribed width (2.5m) prior to being suitable for registration.

Weblinks and References

NT Bulletins - [Vehicle information bulletins and forms | NT.GOV.AU](#)

- Information Bulletin V13 – Vehicle Dimensional Limits
- Information Bulletin V20 – Protruding Vehicle Accessories and Equipment
- Information Bulletin V48 – Imported Vehicles
- Vehicle Inspectors Bulletin VIB13 - Light Trailer Requirements – Compliance with VSB1

Australian Design Rules [Third Edition Australian Design Rules | Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts](#)

More information

Telephone (08) 8924 7157 or email vehiclestandards.mvr@nt.gov.au